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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/605,881	06/29/2000	Christian Laroque	Q59841	7314

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EXAMINER
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STEVENS, ROBERTA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2665

DATE MAILED: 02/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/605,881

Applicant(s)

LAROQUE ET AL.

Examiner

Roberta A Stevens

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fogelhohm (U.S. 6526043 B1) in view of Kelly (U.S. 2002/0126678 A1).

3. Regarding claim 1, Fogelhohm teaches (abstract) a method of monitoring the use of a chargeable dynamic signaling port of a trunk connecting two exchanges (fig. 4), wherein applications communicate via said exchange and the port, comprising: assigning rights of use of a chargeable dynamic signaling port of a trunk connecting two exchanges, an application; and if the port has not been activated, setting up an assigned port, of the trunk for use by the application or if the port has already been set up, making an assigned port available for immediate use only by the application (cols. 3-4).

4. Fogelhohm does not teach the port is set up and deactivated on demand.

5. Kelly teaches (page 4, table 1) in a call set up process the port is set up and deactivated on demand. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt to Fogelhohm's system Kelly's activation and deactivation of a port on demand, to allow as soon as possible reuse of those resources once the port is deactivated.

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6. Regarding claim 2, Fogelhohm teaches (column 4-5) informing applications likely to require to use a changeable dynamic signaling port that a port of this kind has been set up to enable the application to use the port.

7. Regarding claim 5, Fogelhohm teaches (fig. 4) the rights assigned to each application are stored in a database (call record) for the exchange initiating the call request.

8. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fogelhohm in view of Kelly and further in view of Chiang (U.S. 6335938 B1).

9. As mentioned above Fogelhohm and Kelly teach all of the limitations of claim 1.

10. Fogelhohm and Kelly teach a provision for assigning rights of use in time periods that can be changed.

11. Chiang teaches (abstract) teach a provision for assigning rights of use in time periods that can be changed (column 3, lines 58-67). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt to Fogelhohm and Kelly's system, Chiang's concept of assigning time to the use of ports to avoid delay in the system.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

2. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

3. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberta A Stevens whose telephone number is 571-272-3161. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am-5:30pm.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Roberta A Stevens  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2665

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. NGUYEN', with a long diagonal stroke extending from the top right of the signature.

**STEVEN NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**